

Amendment to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph beginning on page 20, line 24 with the following:

The following primers were used to target 16S and 23S RNA (each primer is 5 μ M in the RT primer mix):

- 16S1514 5'-CCTACGGTTACCTTGTT-3' (SEQ ID NO: 1)
- 16S889 5'-TTAACCTTGCGGCCGTA CTC-3' (SEQ ID NO: 2)
- 16S541 5'-TCGATTAACGCTTGCA CCC-3' (SEQ ID NO: 3)
- 23S2878 5'-CCTCACGGTTCATTAGT-3' (SEQ ID NO: 4)
- 23SEco2064 5'-CTATAGTAAAGGTTCA CGGG-3' (SEQ ID NO: 5)
- 23SEco1519 5'-TCGTCATCACGCCTCA GCCT-3' (SEQ ID NO: 6)
- 23S1012 5'-TCCCACATCGTTTCCCAC-3' (SEQ ID NO: 7)
- 23S539 5'-CCATTATACAAAAGGTAC-3' (SEQ ID NO: 8)